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The BENN newsletter is a publication of St. Benedict CSS. It is distributed every second Wednesday during the school year using the WCDSB Newswire service. Any questions or comments pertaining to this publication can be sent to the editor [Anton Milardovic](#) or the school's principal [Dan Witt](#).

BENN Staff

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Next Issue

May 22, 2013

Catholic Education Week Celebrations at St. Benedict's

By MR. D. WITT, PRINCIPAL

This week we celebrated Catholic Education Week 2013 with the theme Growing Together in Faith.

Our staff organized activities for each day of the week. Monday morning students were greeted with a banner, signed by all the staff, which read “Celebrating Our Students—Celebrating Our Faith”.

In addition, students at each entrance door were greeted with live music, smiling staff and cookies to show our staff's appreciation for the great students we have in our school! The enthusiasm of the staff at 7:45 a.m. was a little difficult for some students to accept so early in the morning; all enjoyed the festive atmosphere....and the cookies.

CONTINUED BELOW...



Administrative



E-ALERT

Revision to May OSSLT Date

Please be advised that the previously communicated date of May 15, 2013 issued by EQAO for the second administration of the Ontario Secondary

School Literacy Test (OSSLT) has been RESCHEDULED TO TUESDAY MAY 14, 2013. We apologize for any inconveniences this may cause.

Education Quality and Accountability Office, www.eqao.com

OSSLT Literacy Test Day Schedule

Tuesday, May 14th, 2013

8:25–8:35 Anthem, prayer and test instructions for Gr. 10 and previously eligible students
8:35–9:50 OSSLT Booklet 1 (75 min)
9:50–10:05 Break
10:05–11:20 OSSLT Booklet 2 (75 min)
11:20–11:25 Questionnaire
11:25–12:10 Lunch
12:10–1:15 Period 3 for all students Gr. 9, 10, 11, 12
1:18–2:25 Period 4 for all students Gr. 9, 10, 11, 12

Room assignments and the schedule for the day are the same as we planned for in April and are posted in the main office and outside room 208 as a reminder.

Service to/from St. Benedict Catholic Secondary School

Gr. 10 Literacy Test - Tuesday, May 14, 2013

Morning Service to the school

All school specials operate in the morning at the regularly scheduled times.

Midday Shuttles from Hespeler to School

ST. BENEDICT'S SHUTTLE

(Bell Time 12:10pm)

11:15am Depart Hespeler Terminal (71 Melran bay). Proceed EXPRESS to school.

11:45am Depart Hespeler Terminal (71 Melran bay). Proceed EXPRESS to school.

Afternoon Service from the school

All school specials operate in the afternoon at the regularly scheduled times.

For further information on transit services provided by the Region of Waterloo including school specials refer to our website at www.grt.ca

Catholic Education Week

CONTINUED

In the afternoon I had the opportunity of joining several of our classes who travelled to St. Michael's to watch an outstanding

performance of Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream coat. Congratulations to Ms. Kroetsch, the students and the staff for their hard work in this amazing school production.

Quite fittingly, Wednesday morning Fr. Freitas from [St. Mary of the Visitation](#) parish celebrated our Easter Mass with us as a whole school celebration. It was a wonderful celebration of our faith! Our students were very respectful as we transformed our gym into a sacred space for mass. Fr. Freitas has a great ability to connect with the students in his homilies and his humour is appreciated by all the staff when he visits the main office before and after mass. He always makes a point of ‘signing in’ and ‘signing out’ with our Attendance Office so he isn’t marked truant the next time he arrives!

Thursday, St. Benedict will host grade 7 students from our elementary Family of Schools to help us build connections between elementary and secondary. Leaves made at the elementary schools will be put on a ‘tree of faith and life’ to greet the students when they arrive.

In the evening we will be hosting a School Council Family of Schools Mass at 6:45 p.m. in our chapel followed by a breakout for individual Council meetings and then a social to wrap up the evening.

Interspersed throughout these activities were numerous presentations by guest speakers about social justice issues—Ontario Christian Gleaners—Feeding a Hungry World, Human Trafficking, Holocaust Survivors, The Dominican Republic Experience for students etc.

When we pause to reflect on Catholic Schools I think we can say with we truly do reflect the our Vision of “Heart of the Community: Success for each, a place for all.” We have much to celebrate and for which to be thankful.



God Bless!

Catholic Board Seeks Input from First Nation, Métis, and Inuit Students and Parents

NEWS RELEASE BY THE WCDSB

Waterloo Region, ON — In 2007 the Ontario Ministry of Education launched the Ontario First Nation, Métis, and Inuit Education Policy Framework (Framework).



The Framework provides the foundation for delivering quality education services to First Nation, Métis, and Inuit students in Ontario's provincially funded school system and enhancing the knowledge and understanding of all students of contemporary and traditional First Nation, Métis, and Inuit cultures, histories and perspectives.

The Waterloo Catholic District School Board is seeking feedback from parents and students to help the ministry prepare the second Progress Report on the Framework, which will be released later this spring. Feedback will also be used to guide the future work of the ministry by providing a better understanding of the challenges facing Aboriginal learners and the promising practices that are helping to improve the learning outcomes of First Nation, Métis and Inuit students attending provincially-funded schools.

The surveys—available at www.wcdsb.ca—should take approximately 15 minutes to complete and respondents will not be identified in any reports. The information provided will only be used for the purpose of this study.

The Waterloo Catholic District School Board, representing more than 100,000 Catholic school supporters, operates 52 schools and five adult education facilities serving more than 40,000 elementary, secondary and continuing education students in Waterloo Region – continuing a 177-year tradition of quality, inclusive, faith-based education. Follow us on Twitter: @WCDSBNewswire – #WCDSBAwesome.

WCDSB Students Excel in the Classroom & Community

EXCERPTS FROM THE NEWS RELEASE BY THE WCDSB

Waterloo Region, ON — The students, staff and trustees of Waterloo Region's Catholic Schools proudly congratulate Alexandru (Dru) Gheorghe of St. Benedict Catholic Secondary School on his appointment to the 2013 Minister's Student Advisory Council (MSAC).

This year's MSAC will build upon last year's cohort, which was consulted on many ministry polices ranging from accepting schools, approaching student behaviour from a human rights perspective, career planning, and 21st century learning.

“During this Catholic Education Week it’s important to point out and celebrate the value our Catholic schools continually bring to our local community as well as the province, the country and the rest of the world,” said Director of Education Larry Clifford. “These young students are our leaders and innovators of tomorrow and we are very proud of their accomplishments”.

News from the Guidance Department

BY MRS. P. KLASSEN

Graduation Forms Due Now!!

The deadline to submit graduation forms was Friday, May 3, however we are happy to extend this deadline if there are students who wish to attend but have not yet registered. If your son or daughter falls into this category, please encourage them to take care of this important detail as soon as possible. Graduation will be held on Wednesday, June 26 at the Recreation Complex of Conestoga College. Please note that the completion of community service hours is a diploma requirement and students who have not completed their community service hours prior to the graduation ceremony on June 26, will not be eligible to participate in the graduation ceremony. Contact the guidance office for more information.

Grade 12 Post-Secondary Information Update

1. There will be a presentation regarding the application process for OSAP (Ontario Student Assistance Program) here at St. Benedict on Thursday, May 23. This presentation will take place in the Lecture Hall during the lunch period. Students interested in applying for financial assistance through the OSAP student loan program are encouraged to attend.
2. All students can expect to hear an admission response to all university programs that they applied to by May 29, 2013. Students interested in accepting an offer of admission should do so by June 3, 2013.
3. The Admission Information Service (AIS) will be available through OUAC (Ontario University Application Center) from early June to August for applicants who have not been accepted to programs of their choice or for students who still wish to apply to university for September. All known openings in all university programs will be posted by the AIS at www.ouac.on.ca/ais/
4. Students who did not apply to college are welcome to apply on-line for September, 2013 to any program that is still accepting applications. See www.ontariocolleges.ca for more information.

Are you looking for ways to complete your Community Service Hours?

If the answer to the above question is “yes,” consider the following up-coming opportunities:

1. The Cambridge Highlands Lions Club is pleased to partner with the Cambridge Forbes Park Music Festival on Saturday, July 6, 2013. They are looking for volunteers to help organize and run children’s activities during the day. For further information, please contact cambridgehighlandslions@a15lions.ca

2. The City of Cambridge is seeking volunteers to help with a wide variety of special events that are hosted by the city. These events include the Cambridge Arts Festival, Cambridge Riverfest, Cambridge Tour of the Grand, Mayor's Celebration of the Arts, Canada Day Celebrations, Forbes Park Music Festival, Cambridge Highland Games, Mill Race Folk Festival and Rock the Mill. Volunteer jobs include children's activities, site set up and take down, stage hand help, ticket collection, parking and working in the information booth. Contact Wanda Schaefer-Stilling at 519-740-4681, ext. 4603 or email volunteer@cambridge.ca for more information.
3. The Faculty of Education at Wilfrid Laurier University is seeking volunteers, aged 16 years and older for the Summer Enrichment Day Camps. These camps, which run July 8 -12 and July 15 - 19 are geared to gifted and high able campers in Grade 1 - 9 and are led by certified teachers. Volunteers are an important part of the success of these camps, as they assist the teachers in all aspects of the program. This is an opportunity that may be of particular interest to students who are considering a career in education. Application forms are available at www.wlu.ca/leap The deadline for application is June 1, 2013.
4. The Royal City Soccer Club will be bringing their annual soccer camps to the Waterloo area again this summer and is seeking volunteers. Camps will be held in Cambridge, Kitchener and Waterloo. Students interested in applying for a volunteer position can see Mrs. Klassen in the guidance office for an application or can apply on-line (strongly preferred) on their website www.royalsooccer.com Various positions for paid summer employment are also available with this organization.

Summer School

Summer school will be available this summer for St. Benedict students through the Waterloo Region District School Board, our coterminous board. Make-up credit courses will be offered at Jacob Hespeler Secondary School in Cambridge and Cameron Heights Secondary School in Kitchener.

A selected number of new credit courses will be offered at Jacob Hespeler Secondary School in Cambridge, Sir John A. Macdonald Secondary School in Waterloo and Bluevale Collegiate in Waterloo.

Classes will begin on Wednesday, July 3 and will run until Friday, July 26. Make-up courses are 3 hours in length, either morning or afternoon, while new credit courses are 6 hours in length, not including a 30 minute nutrition break. Students can register for a maximum of 2 make up credits or on 3 new credit course. More information regarding summer school course offerings and registration is available in the guidance office. Please note that students interested in taking a new credit course in summer school must register by June 13. Students planning to take a make-up course have until June 26 to register. See guidance for more information.

What are your plans after High School?

It is never too soon for students to start to consider what their best options are for life following high school. The following web sites provide a wealth of information regarding the various pathways and options available to students. Check them out!

www.electronicinfo.ca — Electronic Guide to Ontario University Programs

www.apprenticeshipsearch.com

www.careersintrades.ca

www.cambridgecareerconnections.com

www.skillsontario.ca

Dominican Encounter With Faith

By Ms. C. SMUKAVICH

The Waterloo Catholic District School Board would like to invite students to consider participating in the Dominican Encounter With Faith and Hospitality program. Participants will travel to the Dominican Republic from Friday November 22rd to Friday November 29th 2013.

The experience will provide students with an opportunity to live with host families and to see the world through the eyes of the poor. Grade 10, 11 and 12 students that are returning to secondary school in September are invited to apply. Information and applications for the experience are available on your school's Classnet page under the heading "WCDSB Dominican Encounter With Faith and Hospitality Program". If you would like more information, please email or speak to [Mr. Betik](#) or [Ms. Smukavich](#).

Academics

Enriching the Lives of Students

By Mrs. D. WITTMANN

Steven Johnson: Where good ideas come from



Steven Berlin Johnson is the best-selling author of six books on the intersection of

Upcoming Enrichment Opportunities for Students

By Mrs. D. TRENTINI

The WCDSB Gifted Department is sponsoring two enrichment excursions this spring. These field trips are open to students working on gifted IEPs, students enrolled in "enriched" or AP courses and academic stream students of high standing.

Chicopee's Leadership Program on Tuesday June 4, 2013

Chicopee offers students the opportunity to "explore the skills that good leaders utilize to be successful in the game of life." Students will explore these skills then partake in a set of activities that use these skills in meaningful ways. The day will culminate with a facility wide challenge.

science, technology and personal experience. His forthcoming book examines "Where Good Ideas Come From."

People often credit their ideas to individual "Eureka!" moments. But Steven Johnson shows how history tells a different story. His fascinating tour takes us from the "liquid networks" of London's coffee houses to Charles Darwin's long, slow hunch to today's high-velocity web.

► [Listen to his TED Talk](#)

Science Olympics

Good luck to the forty St. Benedict students who will be attending the University of Guelph Science Olympics on Thursday, May 9th. Results in the next BENN.

Time: 9:00 – 3:00, cost: \$25, transportation: bus for Cambridge students.

Canadian Medical Hall of Fame's "Discovery Days" on Tuesday May 27, 2013

For those interested in the exciting field of medicine and health sciences, this day at McMaster University offers students opportunity to "hear an inspiring keynote lecture, take part in interactive workshops and join in an interactive experiment demonstration". Registration is limited to 5 students per school at this popular event so please sign up early!

Time: 7:30 – 4:00, cost: none, transportation: provided by WCDSB.

If you are interested in either trip, please see Ms. Trentini. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. More detailed information will be provided for the individual excursions once you are registered.

What's with the poles in the parking lot?

By MR. A. MILARDOVIC

If you're thinking it's for the new driver's ed course, or VIP parking, neither answer is correct. Work is well under way for a fence along the south side of the annex. Last week the holes were drilled and poles installed. As we speak, the actual fence is being put into place.

This is the start of the garden project for the school. Our hospitality classes will be growing herbs and vegetables to use in their recipes. More in the next issue!



Athletics

Varsity Girls Soccer Playoff Game

Next Monday our Varsity Girls Soccer Team will be hosting a playoff game on the field in front of the school. While the opponent is still to be determined, this could be a battle of

BENN
BOX SCORES

Senior Boys Soccer

Cambridge! The game will be after school at 3:30pm. All fans and support are welcome!

Girls Softball

By Ms. C. SMUKAVICH

Congratulations to the girls softball team for their convincing win against Southwood in their season opener last Wednesday. The girls won by a score of 20-4. Honourable mentions go to Dana Lahey and Courtney Eaton for being aggressive on defence just like coach Jankura wanted. All the girls contributed a solid effort to the win by making great plays all around on both offence and defence. Word up to our pitcher Reanna Butler. Way to go girls!

Boys Baseball

By Mrs. A. WHALEN

The boys baseball team had an exciting victory on opening day! The boys defeated Eastwood with a score of 16-7. Our next game was yesterday, when we took on Huron Heights at CanAmara Park.

Track and Field

By Ms. M. BOOTH

Last Friday our track and field team travelled to Jacob Hespeler to compete in the Track Wars Invitational event. Our top competitors are:

Rachel Kasprzyk, 6th in long jump
Devaughn Channer, 6th in 1500m
George Monaghan, 6th in Long jump
Augustine Soga, 6th in long jump
Aidan Yearwood, 9th in 100m midget boy
Robin Petrie, 10th in high jump
Samuel Soga, 10th in shot put
Matt Fantini, 11th in 1500m
Maria Vogiatzis, 13th in discus
Darren Russo, 13th in 1500m
Trevor O'Hagan, 14th in shot put
Donald Raymond, 14th in 1500m
Jason Wozniak, 15th in discus
Rocky Daon, 15th in long jump
St. Benedict 'A', 3rd in midget boy relay
St. Benedict 'A', 7th in 4x100m relay

Msgr. Doyle 2, Saints 1
Rockway 2, Saints 0
Saints 0, Père-René 0
St. David 7, Saints 0

Girls Soccer

Resurrection 5, Saints 0
St. Mary's 6, Saints 0
Resurrection 11, Saints 0
St. David 1, Saints 1

Girls Rugby

Msgr. Doyle 5, Saints 0
Resurrection 53, Saints 0
St. David 38, Saints 0

Boys Baseball

Saints 16, Eastwood 7

Girls Softball

Saints 20, Southwood 4

Stay up to date with District 8 Sports

Now receive sports updates in your email or on your mobile device!

The new [District 8 website](#) now allows you to sign up themselves for nightly e-mail updates. You can select the school (or schools) you want to follow, and all the sports results will be sent to your email address.

The service is free. Sign up by going to <http://district8.ca/admin/emailSignUp.php>.

Our next meet is this Thursday back at Jacob Hespeler. Come by after school to support your Saints!

Clubs

Canoeing Down the Grand

By Ms. M. NOVAKOVICH

Anyone interested in a *Canoeing Down the Grand* day, please check out classNet or talk to Ms. Novakovich for more details. The trip is scheduled for Wednesday, May 29th. Space is limited, so please bring in your permission forms and money ASAP! All are welcome!

Student Activities

Other News

St. Benedict
Presents

Into the Woods

Wednesday, May 22nd @ 7PM

Thursday, May 23rd @ 7PM

Friday May 24th @ 7PM

\$5 Youth

\$10 Adult

Cambridge Community Relay for Life

Friday June 7/13

Missing Relay for Life??

We will be back next year with our school event but you can still Get a team and join the community event on Friday June 7

www.relayforlife/cambridge

or contact Kelly Buchanan

kellybuchanan01@rogers.com

or call 519 654 6230

Also looking for volunteers!!!!

WCDSB Supports “Take Back Your Prescriptions Day”

NEWS RELEASE BY THE WCDSB

Waterloo Region, ON — The Waterloo Catholic District School Board has partnered with the Waterloo Region Crime Prevention Council (WRCPC), the Wellington Guelph Drug Strategy (WGDS), local school boards and local police services to encourage area citizens to return expired or unneeded prescriptions to any local pharmacy.

Take Back Your Prescription Day is Saturday, May 11.

This initiative aims to reduce the opportunity for illegal diversion, recreational use, addiction, injury and death. Additionally, improper disposal of medicines can contaminate our waterways and wildlife.

In 2011 the number of Ontarians who accidentally died from an opioid overdose was more than twice the rate of drivers killed in motor vehicle collisions. Many were young people.

Within the Waterloo–Wellington area, approximately one in four, or more than 9,000 high school students, have used an opioid painkiller for recreation. Most—75%—obtained that prescription opioid from a home medicine cabinet.

Here’s what YOU can do:

- Use medications only as prescribed
- Do not share your medications
- Lock medications in a secure location
- Review medications prescribed to those in your care
- Return all unused/expired medications to any local pharmacy

For more information on this important issue please download the attached flyer and then visit www.preventingcrime.ca/Rx. Then... take your prescriptions back!

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, May 8

4:45pm Sr. Boys Soccer @ Woodland
7:00pm Coffee House
Eastertide Mass
Spirit Day
BENN Newsletter release

Thursday, May 9

11:00am Ultimate Club
11:00am Glee club
11:00am Making A Difference Club
11:00am Eco Team
11:00am Puzzles club
2:00pm Track and Field Maxi meet #2
2:35pm Girls' Workout club
2:40pm Games club
2:40pm Yearbook Club
2:40pm Making a Difference Club

Thursday, May 16

7:50am Track and Field District 8
8:20am Law Day: Legal & Administrative Procedures
11:00am Ultimate Club
11:00am Glee club
11:00am Making A Difference Club
11:00am Puzzles club
2:35pm Girls' Workout club
2:40pm Games club
2:40pm Yearbook Club
2:40pm Making a Difference Club
2:45pm Girls' Fitness Club
Co-president campaign week

Friday, May 17

11:00am Lost Club
2:40pm Doctor Who Video Club

2:45pm Girls' Fitness Club
6:45pm School Council Mass

Friday, May 10

11:00am Lost Club
2:30pm Sr. Boys Soccer vs Doyle
2:40pm Doctor Who Video Club
2:40pm Hip Hop Dance Crew
6:00pm Prom

Saturday, May 11

10:30am Run A Lung for Kayla

Sunday, May 12

MOTHERS' DAY

Monday, May 13

11:00am Art Club
11:00am Saints 4 Life
2:40pm Camera Club
2:45pm Fitness Club
Co-president campaign week

Tuesday, May 14

8:20am Grade 10 Literacy Test
11:00am Self Defense and Conditioning Club
11:00am Glee club
11:00am Science Team
11:00am Artistic License
11:00am Puzzles club
2:45pm Fitness Club
6:00pm Badminton club, 6:00–7:30
Co-president campaign week

Wednesday, May 15

7:50am Track and Field District 8
8:20am Infection Control Training
8:20am Careers in Aviation
8:20am Careers in Policing & Emergency Response
11:00am Lost Club
11:00am Welding Club
11:00am ACTIVE and Friends
11:00am Puzzles club
2:35pm Anime Club
2:40pm Hip Hop Dance Crew
2:45pm Fitness Club
Co-president campaign week
Spirit Day

2:40pm Hip Hop Dance Crew
Co-president elections

Monday, May 20

VICTORIA DAY

Tuesday, May 21

11:00am Self Defense and Conditioning Club
11:00am Glee club
11:00am Artistic License
11:00am Puzzles club
2:45pm Fitness Club
6:00pm Badminton club, 6:00–7:30

Wednesday, May 22

11:00am Lost Club
11:00am Welding Club
11:00am ACTIVE and Friends
11:00am Puzzles club
12:00pm Track and Field CWOSSA
2:35pm Anime Club
2:40pm Hip Hop Dance Crew
2:45pm Fitness Club
7:00pm Into the Woods
Spirit Day
BENN Newsletter release

Did you know?

There are over 1900 entries on our school calendar on the website!

Check the calendar on the school website for more information. New information is always being added, and more detailed information about upcoming events can be found there. To see the full calendar, go to **Benny's News** ► **Calendar of Events.**

Miscellaneous

We want to know...

Thank you to those who have taken time to provide us with feedback. Your opinions are important to us! Please [email us](#) with your comments and suggestions. If you like our newsletter, tell others; if you don't like it, tell us!

Check out our school website at <http://stbenedict.wcdsb.ca> for news and information updates.



